IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 5, 8, 9, 11 and 12 as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A portable computer system which includes a main body, a power supplying unit, and a liquid crystal display (LCD) apparatus having an LCD panel which is operated by electric power supplied by the power supplying unit and a back light which illuminates the LCD panel, said system further comprising:

a direct current to alternating current (DC/AC) inverter for supplying AC power to the back light;

a contrast sensing part for sensing contrast of a video signal displayed on the LCD panel and outputting a pulse width modulation (PWM) signal;

a DC converter for converting the PWM signal from the contrast sensing part into a DC signal;

a voltage controller provided between an output of the DC converter and an input of the DC/AC inverter for providing the DC signal from the DC converter as an operating voltage to the DC/AC inverter; and

a controller connected in series with the DC/AC inverter for sensing the operating voltage of the DC/AC inverter, and for controlling the voltage controller on the basis of the operating voltage of the DC/AC inverter.

2. (Previously Presented) The portable computer system according to claim 1, wherein an output of the controller is directly connected to another input of the DC/AC inverter, and the contrast sensing part is connected to the DC/AC inverter via the DC converter and the voltage controller.

3. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 1, further comprising a back light manual selection part operable for suspending a back light automatic control function, and wherein the controller turns off the voltage controller when the back light manual selection part is operated to suspend the back light automatic control function.

4. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 3, wherein the back light manual selection part is included in a keyboard unit provided in the main body.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a portable computer system which includes a main body to which a power supplying unit is connected, and an LCD apparatus having an LCD panel operated by electric power supplied by the power supplying unit, a back light for illuminating the LCD panel, and a contrast sensing part connected to the LCD panel, said method comprising the steps of:

sensing contrast of a video signal displayed on the LCD panel ~~an operating voltage of a DC/AC inverter supplying an AC voltage to the back light~~;

~~obtaining~~ outputting a ~~back light control~~ pulse width modulation (PWM) signal ~~outputted~~ from the contrast sensing part in response to the sensing step;

converting the ~~back light control~~ pulse width modulation (PWM) signal into a DC signal;

controlling the DC signal to have an intensity for operating [[the]] a DC/AC inverter which supplies an AC voltage to the back light; and

supplying the controlled DC signal as a DC operating voltage to the DC/AC inverter.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

selecting a back light manual control function; and

suspending a back light automatic control function so as to allow a user to manually control the back light when the back light manual control function is selected.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, further comprising the step, prior to the sensing step, of determining whether the contrast sensing part is provided, and suspending the back light automatic control function so as to allow the user to manually control the back light when the contrast sensing part is not provided.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein [[the]] a back light automatic control function is carried out based on the step of sensing~~, by the contrast~~

~~sensing part, of a~~ the contrast of [[a]] the video signal displayed on the LCD panel, the sensing step being carried out by the contrast sensing part.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein [[the]] a back light automatic control function is carried out based on the step of sensing, ~~by the contrast sensing part, of a~~ the contrast of [[a]] the video signal displayed on the LCD panel, the sensing step being carried out by the contrast sensing part.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, further comprising the step, prior to the sensing step, of determining whether the contrast sensing part is provided, and suspending a back light automatic control function so as to allow a user to manually control the back light when the contrast sensing part is not provided.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein [[the]] a back light automatic control function is carried out based on the step of sensing, ~~by the contrast sensing part, of a~~ the contrast of [[a]] the video signal displayed on the LCD panel, the sensing step being carried out by the contrast sensing part.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein [[the]] a back light automatic control function is carried out based on the step of sensing, ~~by the contrast~~

~~sensing part, of a~~ the contrast of [[a]] the video signal displayed on the LCD panel, the sensing step being carried out by the contrast sensing part.

13. (Previously Presented) A portable computer system having a liquid crystal display (LCD) and a back light illuminating the LCD panel, said system further comprising:

direct current to alternating current (DC/AC) inverter means for supplying AC power to the back light;

contrast sensing means for sensing a contrast of a video signal displayed on the LCD panel and outputting a pulse width modulation (PWM) signal;

DC converter means for converting the PWM signal outputted by the contrast sensing means into a DC signal; and

voltage controller means disposed between an output of the DC converter means and an input of the DC/AC inverter means for controlling the DC signal from the DC converter means so that it has an intensity of an operating voltage for the DC/AC inverter means, and for supplying the controlled DC signal to the DC/AC inverter means.

14. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 13, further comprising controller means connected to the DC/AC inverter means for sensing the operating voltage of the DC/AC inverter means, and for controlling the voltage controller means on the basis of the sensed operating voltage.

15. (Previously Presented) The portable computer system according to claim 14, wherein an output of the controller means is directly connected to another input of the DC/AC inverter means, and the contrast sensing means is connected to the DC/AC inverter means via the DC converter means and the voltage controller means.

16. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 14, further comprising back light selection means operable by a user for selecting manual control of the back light and for suspending automatic control of the back light.

17. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 16, wherein the back light selection means comprises a keyboard unit of the portable computer system.

18. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 16, wherein the controller means turns off the voltage controller means when the user operates the back light selection means to select the manual control of the back light.

19. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 13, further comprising back light selection means operable by a user for selecting manual control of the back light and for suspending automatic control of the back light.

20. (Original) The portable computer system according to claim 19, wherein the back light selection means comprises a keyboard unit of the portable computer system.